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However, the most important task facing the plant is the installation of a mechanized rack-and-pinion cooler in the rolling mill. The rolled metal is now still being removed by hand. This is very hard physical labor and requires the work of 60 men, but even this number of men cannot remove the rolled product on time. This failure in turn limits the operation of mill "300" and lowers the quality of fine rolled steel.

The Administration of "Uzbekpromstroy" (Uzbek Industrial Construction) must reorganize its work in supplying the Begovat Construction Administration with materials, technical equipment, and manpower. Due to lack of manpower, lumber, roofing, and brick the plan for the building of housing and industrial structures is being disrupted.

The Begovat steelworkers have entered into competition with those at the Kazakh Metallurgical Plant.

INEFFICIENCY HAMPER KAZAKH COPPER PRODUCTION -- Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 150, 30 Jul 48

The Karsakpay Copper-Smelting Plant needs considerable overhauling of its operations. A high percentage of copper is being lost instead of being retained in the concentrate. Metal losses have begun to decrease as compared with the first 6 months, but there is still room for real improvement in operational methods. Not a single shift, for example, abides by the established quotas for ore crushing or for reagent classification and dosing.

Metal losses could be greatly reduced if Bagreyev, plant director, and Chizhevskiy, chief plant engineer, would concern themselves with utilizing the new apparatus for decanting metals to all the oil-flotation machines.

The Karsakpay TSES (Central Electric-Power Plant) shares responsibility with the Dzhezkazgan Combine administration for the low amount of metal extracted at the plant. Recently, plant operations have often been stopped by power failure or lowered steam pressure, with the result that the whole technological process was interrupted.

For more than a year now, the concentrating factory has been receiving oxidized copper ore from Mine No 1 of the Dzhezkazgan Combine. This fact is another serious cause for the loss of metal, since the greatest technological skill is required to extract as much metal as possible from this type of ore.

A special commission, headed by Shakhnovskiy, Candidate in Technical Sciences, made a number of valuable suggestions as early as 1947 for dressing the ore from Mine No 1. In part, the commission proposed that the ore from this mine should be worked after mixing it with 10-12 percent of sulfide ore. To carry out this proposal would require that a feeder truck be set up at the front section of the main ore bunkers, that certain bunkers be set apart for the ore from Mine No 1, and that strict control and accountability be maintained over incoming ore and its processing.

The Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy USSR has frequently suggested to the Dzhezkazgan Combine, which includes the Karsakpay Copper-Smelting Plant, that it straighten out the matter of supplying ore to the plant.

However, it would be incorrect to think that metal losses at the plant take place only during the making of concentrate. Considerable losses also occur in the slags and gases, and when the pulp is poured off.

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ARMENIAN COPPER MINES TO BE OPENED -- Pravda Ukrainy, No 176, 27 Jul 48

Preliminary prospecting work is being carried out in the Zangezur geological region. An experimental dressing plant is under construction in Ankavan settlement, Armenia. It will serve as a model for the principal dressing plant which will be located on the Okhchi River bank facing the main mines. Ores will be sent to the dressing plant by means of a cable conveyor. Thus, a new industrial center is springing up in Armenia as provided by the Five-Year Plan. Extraction and dressing of copper ore will begin in this locale in 1950.

ARMENIAN POLYMETALLIC MINES MODERNIZED -- Kommunist, No 178, 29 Jul 48

Miners of Kadzharanstroy were not fulfilling the plan at the beginning of 1948. The first-quarter plan was fulfilled by only 30 percent. But the situation changed with the arrival of the new mine director, Engineer P. Iskandaryan. New air-conduit pipes have been put in, with the result that air loss has been eliminated and efficiency of pneumatic drills increased. Wet drilling has been introduced, an improvement which doubled the productivity of the miners.

A large reconstruction program was undertaken on the narrow-gauge railroad system which had been in disrepair for a long time and was impeding hauling operations. It was repaired in a short time, and all roads to the mine were cleared. Hauling operations have been speeded up as a result of this repair program. A loader can now send out 20-25 cars per shift, whereas the previous average had been 10-12 cars. Miners have fulfilled the second-quarter plan and, at the same time, have made up the first-quarter deficiencies. Average productivity of each worker increased by 10 percent above plan.

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